



# NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture  
**NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE**  
**VIRGINIA FIELD OFFICE**

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## SOYBEAN YIELDS UP FROM THE PREVIOUS FORECAST

Results from a survey conducted September 1 by the Virginia Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service indicated that Virginia's soybean yield prospects have increased since the last forecast on August 1. Timely rains coupled with warm, sunny conditions have improved crop conditions. Hurricane Irene moved through eastern and southeastern Virginia at the end of August and brought much needed rain to a large part of the state. There was some reported damage to corn fields while soybean and peanut fields were mostly unaffected. Cotton experienced the most damage with many producers reporting wind damage and flattened areas.

Soybean producers expect to harvest an average of 37 bushels per acre from 550,000 acres, an increase of 2 bushels per acre from the previous forecast of 35 bushels per acre on August 1. Production is expected to total 20.35 million bushels.

Virginia corn yields are expected to average 124 bushels per acre, up 8 bushels from the previous forecast on August 1. Production is expected to total 42.16 million bushels, which is up 103 percent from last year.

The state's cotton yield is forecast at 835 pounds per acre, down from 989 pounds per acre on August 1. Hurricane Irene damaged many fields and producers are reporting many areas flattened and tangled by the strong winds. Cotton producers will harvest 115,000 acres in 2011 which is up 33,000 acres from the previous year. Production is expected to total 200 thousand bales.

The state's peanut yield is forecast to be 3,400 pounds per acre. This is a 100 pound per acre increase from the August forecast. Production is expected to total 54.4 million pounds from 16,000 acres for harvest.

Burley tobacco yield is forecast to be 1,700 pounds per acre, bringing total production to 3.4 million pounds from 2,000 acres. Last year's average yield was 1,900 pounds per acre with a total production of 3.04 million pounds harvested from 1,600 acres.

Flue tobacco yield has a decrease of 100 pounds per acre from the previous forecast to 2,300 pounds per acre. Production is expected to total 44.85 million pounds from 19,500 acres.

Fire tobacco yield is forecast to be 1,700 pounds per acre. Production is forecast at 680 thousand pounds from 400 acres.

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**Corn Production Down 3 Percent from August Forecast  
Soybean Production Up 1 Percent  
Cotton Production Up Fractionally**

**Corn** production is forecast at 12.5 billion bushels, down 3 percent from the August forecast but up fractionally from 2010. If realized, this will be the third largest production total on record for the United States. Based on conditions as of September 1, yields are expected to average 148.1 bushels per acre, down 4.9 bushels from the August 1 forecast and down 4.7 bushels from 2010. If realized, this will be the lowest average yield in the United States since 2005.

**Soybean** production is forecast at 3.09 billion bushels, up 1 percent from August but down 7 percent from last year. Based on September 1 conditions, yields are expected to average 41.8 bushels per acre, up 0.4 bushel from last month but down 1.7 bushels from last year. Compared with last month, yield forecasts are higher in the Central Great Plains and along much of the Atlantic Coast. If realized, the forecasted yield in Nebraska will be a record high. Yield forecasts are below last month across the Southern Great Plains and portions of the Southeast as hot, dry conditions persisted during August. Area for harvest in the United States is forecast at 73.8 million acres, unchanged from August but down 4 percent from 2010.

**All cotton** production is forecast at 16.6 million 480-pound bales, up fractionally from last month but down 9 percent from last year. Yield is expected to average 807 pounds per harvested acre, down 5 pounds from last year. Upland cotton production is forecast at 15.8 million 480-pound bales, down 10 percent from 2010. American Pima production, forecast at 737,200 bales, was carried forward from last month.

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